

## Abstract

Single mothers are said to be women who become lone mothers through separation from their spouse. They are most commonly known as mothers out-of-wedlock. Statistically speaking, there were almost 2.28 million mothers who are either separated or divorced from their spouses in 1995 and there are 500,000 mothers who are unwed in 1997. In 2013, it was reported that there are almost 13.9 million Filipinos who are single mothers. For this reason, the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program provides needs for these single mothers. 4Ps is the Philippines' version of the conditional cash transfer that is patterned on programs in other developing countries like Brazil, Columbia and Mexico. It provides cash transfers to extremely poor households to help improve their health, nutrition, and education. Since there was a lot of researcher's about single mothers in the Western countries, this study focuses only on the lived experiences of single mothers who come from the low socioeconomic class. Thus, the researcher expects that these two objectives of the study will be attained: first, to determine the lived experiences of single mothers under the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program, and, to provide a meaning system about the lived experiences of the single mothers under the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program. To answer the research objectives, an interpretive phenomenological analysis was used. Five anticipated participants were selected through purposive sampling to share their experiences under The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps). This resulted in having three superordinate themes namely: (1) experience of emotional struggle; (2) coping and support experiences; and (3) the process of acceptance and empowerment of self. Theoretical implication of the lived experiences across time and acceptance were discussed.

*Keywords:* Single Mothers, The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps), Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis, Lived Experience.